

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01251 170818Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 /023 W
-----117491 172045Z /62
R 151120Z JUN 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6340
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BAGHDAD 1251

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: BDIS, ECRE, BENC, IZ
SUBJ: CLAIM OF J.A. JONES CONSTRUCTION CO. AGAINST IRAQI GOVERNMENT

REF TEHRAN 5007

1. USINT CONTINUES TO RECEIVE EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST IN MAJOR U.S. CONSTRUCTION FIRMS FROM IRAQI GOVERNMENT AGENCIES. THREE U.S. COMPANIES WERE RECENTLY INVITED TO PREQUALIFY FOR THE ONE-HALF BILLION DOLLAR BAGHDAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT EXPANSION PROJECT AND U.S. FIRMS HAVE ALSO BEEN INVITED TO BID ON LAND RECLAMATION AND HOTEL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

2. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GOI PERSISTS IN ITS POLICY OF ADHERENCE TO THE ARAB BOYCOTT AND HAS NOT SHOWN THE DEGREE OF FLEXIBILITY NOTED IN OTHER ARAB PETRO-MARKETS. COMPETITION IN THE CIVIL CONSTRUCTION FIELD IS VERY STIFF WITH MANY CONTRACTS GOING TO JAPANESE, YUGOSLAV, INDIAN, AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN FIRMS. IRAQI NEGOTIATING FLEXIBILITY ON BOYCOTT ISSUES IS INFLUENCED BY THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF THE U.S. FIRM'S OFFER AND THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE PROJECT IN THE GOI'S NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME. USINT HAS ALSO NOTICED THAT IRAQI STATE ORGANIZATIONS TEND TO HAVE LONG MEMORIES CONCERNING TRADE AND CONTRACT DISPUTES AND A CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE MAY

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BE USEFUL IN REGAINING ACCESS TO THIS GROWING MARKET.

3. IRAQI BUSINESSMAN ABDUL KARIM H. HADID IS NOT PERSONALLY KNOWN TO USINT BUT THE HADID FAMILY OF MOSUL IS PROMINENT. MOHAMMED HADID WAS THE FIRST IRAQI MINISTER OF FINANCE AFTER THE 1958 REVOLUTION WHICH OVERTHREW THE ROYAL FAMILY. A PROMINENT INDUSTRIALIST, HE MADE A ONE MILLION DINAR PERSONAL

LOAD TO THE GOI TO COVER SALARY EXPESES OF THE QASIM
REGIME UNTIL BLOCKED IRAQI ACCOUNTS IN THE U.K. WERE RELEASED.
THE FAXILY'S MAJOR INDUSTRIAL ASSETS WERE NATIONALIZED IN THE
EARLY 1960'S BUT COMPENSATION WAS PAID AND MOHAMMED HADID HAS
A NUMBER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES.

4. HADID WAS AMEMBER OF THE BANNED NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY
AND IS NOT POLITICALLY ACTIVE. POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS OF
OTHERMEMBERS OF THIS LARGE FAMILY ARE UNKNOWN AND USINT DOES
NOT KNOW THE DEGREE OF BLOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MOHAMMED
AND ABDUL KARIM H. HADID.
PECK

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 15 jun 1978
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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